

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

SEP 2 1 2011

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

The Honorable Michael Wiggins Jr., Chairman Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Dear Chairman Wiggins:

We have completed our review of your July 15, 2011 request to approve the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians' (the Band) water quality standards. I am pleased to approve all components of the Band's submittal.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reviewed the following standards submitted by the Band and has concluded that they are consistent with the Clean Water Act (CWA) and federal regulations:

Section A. Background

Section B. Territory Covered

Section C. Applicability, Administration and Amendment

Section D. Definitions

Section E. General Considerations:

- 1. Classification boundaries
- 2. Antidegradation policy
- 3. Antidegradation implementation
- 4. Antidegradation demonstration
- 5. Antidegradation decision
- 6. Narrative criteria
- 7. Specific numeric criteria
- 8. Analytical methods

Section F. Designated Uses

Section G. Specific Classifications

Section H. Numeric Water Quality Criteria

Section I. Mixing Zones

Section J. Severability

The Band's water quality standards are effective for CWA purposes as of the date of this letter. Section 303 (c) of the CWA requires states and authorized tribes to review and update their water quality standards at least once every three years. The Band's first triennial review should be completed no later than July 21, 2014, which is three years from the date that EPA received the Band's request.

If you have further questions, please contact me at (312) 886-3000 or your staff may contact Kathleen Mayo, Tribal Water Quality Standards Coordinator, at (312) 353-5592.

Sincerely,

Susan Hedman

Regional Administrator

cc: Ervin Soulier, Bad River Environmental Director Naomi Tillison, Bad River Water Resources Specialist Joel Trick, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service